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**REMARKS**

Claims 5-7, 11, 19, 20 and 23-25 are withdrawn. Claims 1-4, 8-10, 12-18, 21, 22 and 26-28 remain in the application. Applicant has amended claim 3 to correct a typographical error so that claim 3 now depends from claim 2.

***Election of Species***

**1.00** *The Examiner, in the Office Action mailed 9 May 2005, required Applicant to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, claims 1 and 28 are generic.*

**1.10** Applicant elected to prosecute Species B, Species F and Species G. Applicant's agent held that the claims 1-4, 8-10, 12-18, 21, 22, 24, 26-28 read on Species B, Species F and Species G. The election was filed on 20 May 2005. Applicant withdrew claim 5-7, 11, 19, 20, 23 and 25. Because claim 24 depends from nonelected claim 23, applicant confirms that claim 24 is also withdrawn.

***Objections/Rejections  
Under 35 U.S.C. § 103***

**2.00** *The Examiner has rejected claims 1-4, 8-10, 12-18, 21, 22, and 26-28 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Abrams (U.S. 4,435,145, March 6, 1984) in view of Wiley (U.S. 4,730,952, March 15, 1988).*

**2.10** The Examiner holds that *Abrams '145* teaches a cylindrical rolling pin having a central axle 13 with a "handle" 17 (14?) at each end, a pair of planar guide disk members 17, each guide disk member having a diameter larger than the cylindrical pin 11, each guide disk member 17 having a central slot.

However, *Abrams '145* does not teach a pair of clip and spacer assemblies, each assembly mounted to the pin central axle between a pin handle and an end of the cylindrical pin, the assembly including

a planar clip member adjacent the pin handle and a planar spacer member adjacent the cylindrical pin, each clip and spacer assembly smaller in diameter than the cylindrical rolling pin and larger in diameter than the pin handle, each planar clip member including at least one tab portion coplanar therewith; and having a central slot allowing passage of the clip member with at least one tab portion there through, whereby, inserting a pin handle through a guide disk member central slot allows the clip member with at least one tab portion to pass there through, the guide disk member's central slot thereby encircling the spacer member, and rotational movement between the guide disk member and clip member produces misalignment of the clip member's at least one tab portion and the guide disk member's central slot, thereby locking the guide disk member in place about the spacer member, thus elevating the cylindrical pin a selected distance above a support surface.

*Wiley '952* teaches a clip and spacer assembly 36 including a planar clip member 36 and a planar spacer member 34, each planar clip member 36 including at least one tab portion coplanar therewith; and a guide disk member 26 having a central slot 30 allowing passage of the clip member 36 with at least one tab portion there through, whereby, the guide disk member's central slot 30 thereby encircling the spacer member 34, and rotational movement between the guide disk member 26 and clip member 36 produces misalignment of the clip member's 36 at least one tab portion and the guide disk member's 26 central slot 30, thereby locking the guide disk 26 member in place about the spacer member 36, thus elevating the cylindrical pin 16 a selected distance above a support surface.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to have provided the invention of *Abrams '145* with a pair of clip and spacer assemblies, each assembly mounted to the pin central axle between a pin handle and an end of the cylindrical pin, the assembly including a planar clip member adjacent the pin handle and a planar spacer member adjacent the cylindrical pin, each clip and spacer assembly smaller in diameter than the cylindrical rolling pin and larger in diameter than the pin handle, each planar clip member including at least one tab portion coplanar therewith; and having a central slot allowing passage of the clip member with at least one tab portion there through, whereby, inserting a pin handle through a guide disk member central slot allows the clip member with at least one tab portion to pass there through, the guide disk

member's central slot thereby encircling the spacer member, and rotational movement between the guide disk member and clip member produces misalignment of the clip members at least one tab portion and the guide disk member's central slot, thereby locking the guide disk member in place about the spacer member, thus elevating the cylindrical pin a selected distance above a support surface, in light of the teachings of *Wiley '952*, in order to provide a quickly releasable attachment as suggested by *Wiley '952* at col. 1, lines 44-51 without the need for additional, washers and nuts (col. 1, lines 26-28 of *Wiley '952*).

Regarding claims 2, 9, and 21, *Wiley '952* teaches two tab portions 36.

Regarding claims 3 and 17, *Wiley '952* teaches that the two tab portions 36 are "opposed" across the clip member.

Regarding claims 4 and 8, *Wiley '952* teaches that the spacer member 34 is circular.

Regarding claims 10 and 22, the planar spacer member 34 and the planar guide disk member 26 are essentially the same thickness in *Wiley '952*.

Regarding claims 12, 15, 13, and 27, the spacer member 34 of *Wiley '952* is secured to an end of the cylindrical "pin" 16.

Regarding claims 14 and 26, *Wiley '952* teaches that the spacer member and clip member are a single unit (see figure 2).

**2.20 The Present Invention** of claim 1 is a clip, spacer and disk system adapted for attachment to a cylindrical rolling pin having a central axle with a handle at each end.

The clip, spacer and disk system comprises a pair of clip and spacer assemblies, each assembly mounted to the pin central axle between a pin handle and an end of the cylindrical pin. The

assembly includes a planar clip member adjacent the pin handle and a planar spacer member adjacent the cylindrical pin. Each clip and spacer assembly is smaller in diameter than the cylindrical rolling pin and larger in diameter than the pin handle. Each planar clip member including at least one tab portion coplanar therewith.

Also included is a pair of planar guide disk members, each guide disk member having a diameter larger than the cylindrical pin. Each guide disk member has a central slot allowing passage of the clip member with at least one tab portion there through, for positioning the guide disk member about the spacer member.

Inserting a pin handle through a guide disk member's central slot allows the clip member with at least one tab portion to pass through the guide disk member's central slot, thereby encircling the spacer member. Rotational movement between the guide disk member and clip member produces misalignment of the clip member's at least one tab portion and the guide disk member's central slot, thereby locking the guide disk member in place about the spacer member, and thus elevating the cylindrical pin a selected distance above a support surface.

Applicant's agent respectfully holds that the combination of *Abrams '145* and *Wiley '952* does not disclose, teach or even suggest the present invention of claim 1.

The *Abrams '145* reference discloses a rolling pin 10 having an end wall 12 with a rigidly affixed axial pin or rod 13 holding a handle forming sleeve 14. The outer free end of each rod 13 is provided with a reduced (diameter) portion 15 which is separated from the remainder of the rod by a shoulder 16. A gauge wheel 17 has an axial opening 18 of a size to slidably receive the reduced (diameter) portion 15 with the wheel 17 in engagement with the shoulder 16. The reduced portion 15 is threaded to receive a nut 19 and washer to retain the gauge wheel 17 on the reduced (diameter) portion 15 of the rod 13 (col. 2, lines 50-66).

In order to change the gauge wheel, the nut and washer must be removed and then reattached, requiring a tool, such as a wrench or pliers, to loosen and tighten the nut.

The *Wiley '952* reference discloses a mechanism for attaching a circular saw blade 26 to the arbor or drive shaft 14 of a power saw. The mechanism includes a splined blade holder 36 with a

locking groove 34. To mount the blade 26 to the arbor 14, the blade 26 contacts the splined slide lock 38, with the slot 28 in the circular blade 26 passing over the blade holder 36 and the lands 32 of the blade 26 rotated to fit into the locking groove 34. The spring biased, splined slide lock 38 then engages the blade holder 36 to prevent rotation of the circular blade 26 so that rotation of the arbor 14 imparts rotation to the blade 26 to effect cutting with the blade 26. The release button 48 is positioned at the end of the arbor 14 to move the slide lock 38 to allow the blade 26 to be removed from the arbor 14.

The combined teachings of the *Abrams '145* and *Wiley '952* references directly suggest using the mechanism of *Wiley '952* at each end of the axial pin or rod 13 of the rolling pin to secure each gauge wheel 17 thereto. The release button 48 connected to the biased, splined slide lock 38, disclosed by *Wiley '952*, must be accessible and on the end of the mechanism for attaching and releasing the gauge wheel 17. Thus, the mechanism of *Wiley '952* must be attached to the pin or rod 13 at the end opposite the pin end wall 12. There is no disclosure, teaching or suggestion that the clip and spacer assembly of the present invention be located between a pin handle and the end of the cylindrical pin. This claimed location for the clip and spacer assembly allows for a much simpler mechanism for securing a guide disk member to the clip and spacer assembly mounted to the pin central axle. The *Wiley '952* reference requires rigid locking of the saw blade 26 to the arbor 14 in order to effect cutting by the blade 26. The present invention of the claims under prosecution allow the guide disks to rotate on the spacer assembly. Further, should the tab portion(s) of the central slot of the guide disk align with the tab portion(s) of the clip member during use of the rolling pin, the user's hand on the pin handle prevents the guide disk from disengaging from the clip and spacer assembly.

Thus, applicant's agent holds that the combination of *Abrams '145* and *Wiley '952* does not disclose, teach or even suggest the present invention of claim 1, and that claim 1 is patentable over these references. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) be withdrawn, in view of the above arguments.

**2.30** Applicant holds that claim 1 is patentably distinguished over the *Abrams '145* and *Wiley '952* references for the reasons outlined in paragraphs of 2.20 above. Applicant holds that since claim 1 now patentable, dependent claims 2-4, 8-10 and 12-15 are also now patentable over the *Abrams '145* and *Wiley '952* references, in that these claims now recite more specific embodiments of the present invention. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the objection to claims 2-4, 8-10 and 12-15 under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a), in view of the discussion and arguments presented in the paragraphs of 2.20 above.

**2.40** The Present Invention of claim 16 is a clip, spacer and disk system adapted for attachment to a cylindrical rolling pin having a central axle with a handle at each end.

The clip, spacer and disk system comprises a pair of clip and spacer assemblies, each assembly mounted to the pin central axle between a pin handle and an end of the cylindrical pin. The assembly includes a planar clip member adjacent the pin handle and a planar spacer member adjacent the cylindrical pin. Each clip and spacer assembly is smaller in diameter than the cylindrical rolling pin and larger in diameter than the pin handle. Each planar clip member including two tab portions coplanar therewith.

Also included is a pair of planar guide disk members, each guide disk member having a diameter larger than the cylindrical pin. Each guide disk member has a central slot allowing passage of the clip member with two tab portions there through, for positioning the guide disk member about the spacer member.

Inserting a pin handle through a guide disk member's central slot allows the clip member with two tab portions to pass through the guide disk member's central slot, thereby encircling the spacer member. Rotational movement between the guide disk member and clip member produces misalignment of the clip member's two tab portions and the guide disk member's central slot, thereby locking the guide disk member in place about the spacer member, and thus elevating the cylindrical pin a selected distance above a support surface.

Applicant's agent respectfully holds that the combination of *Abrams '145* and *Wiley '952* does not disclose, teach or even suggest the present invention of claim 1.

The *Abrams* '145 reference discloses a rolling pin 10 having an end wall 12 with a rigidly affixed an axial pin or rod 13 holding a handle forming sleeve 14. The outer free end of each rod 13 is provided with a reduced (diameter) portion 15 which is separated from the remainder of the rod by a shoulder 16. A gauge wheel 17 has an axial opening 18 of a size to slidably receive the reduced (diameter) portion 15 with the wheel 17 in engagement with the shoulder 16. The reduced portion 15 is threaded to receive a nut 19 and washer to retain the gauge wheel 17 on the reduced (diameter) portion 15 of the rod 13 (col. 2, lines 50-66).

In order to change the gauge wheel, the nut and washer must be removed and then reattached, requiring a tool, such as a wrench or pliers, to loosen and tighten the nut.

The *Wiley* '952 reference discloses a mechanism for attaching a circular saw blade 26 to the arbor or drive shaft 14 of a power saw. The mechanism includes a splined blade holder 36 with a locking groove 34. To mount the blade 26 to the arbor 14, the blade 26 contacts the splined slide lock 38, with the slot 28 in the circular blade 26 passing over the blade holder 36 and the lands 32 of the blade 26 rotated to fit into the locking groove 34. The spring biased, splined slide lock 38 then engages the blade holder 36 to prevent rotation of the circular blade 26 so that rotation of the arbor 14 imparts rotation to the blade 26 to effect cutting with the blade 26. The release button 48 is positioned at the end of the arbor 14 to move the slide lock 38 to allow the blade 26 to be removed from the arbor 14.

The combined teachings of the *Abrams* '145 and *Wiley* '952 references suggests using the mechanism of *Wiley* '952 at each end of the axial pin or rod 13 of the rolling pin to secure each gauge wheel 17 thereto. The release button 48 connected to the biased, splined slide lock 38, disclosed by *Wiley* '952, must be accessible and on the end of the mechanism for attaching and releasing the gauge wheel 17. Thus, the mechanism must be attached to the pin or rod 13 at the end opposite the pin end wall 12. There is no disclosure, teaching or suggestion that the clip and spacer assembly of the present invention be located between a pin handle and the end of the cylindrical pin. This claimed location for the clip and spacer assembly allows for a much simpler mechanism for securing a guide disk member to the clip and spacer assembly mounted to the pin central axle. The *Wiley* '952 reference requires rigid locking of the saw blade 26 to the arbor 14 in order to effect cutting by the blade 26. The present invention of the claims under prosecution allow the guide disks

to rotate on the spacer assembly. Further, should the tab portion(s) of the central slot of the guide disk align with the tab portion(s) of the clip member during use of the rolling pin, the user's hand on the pin handle prevents the guide disk from disengaging from the clip and spacer assembly.

Thus, applicant's agent holds that the combination of *Abrams '145* and *Wiley '952* does not disclose, teach or even suggest the present invention of claim 16, and that claim 16 is patentable over these references. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claim 16 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) be withdrawn, in view of the above arguments.

**2.50** Applicant holds that claim 16 is patentably distinguished over the *Abrams '145* and *Wiley '952* references for the reasons outlined in paragraphs of 2.20 above. Applicant holds that since claim 16 now patentable, dependent claims 17, 18, 21, 22, 26 and 27 are also now patentable over the *Abrams '145* and *Wiley '952* references, in that these claims now recite more specific embodiments of the present invention. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the objection to claims 17, 18, 21, 22, 26 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a), in view of the discussion and arguments presented in the paragraphs of 2.40 above.

**2.60** **The Present Invention** of claim 28 is a rolling pin with a clip, spacer and disk system.

The combination includes a rolling pin having a cylindrical rolling pin member with a central axle and a handle at each end thereof.

The clip, spacer and disk system comprises a pair of clip and spacer assemblies, each assembly mounted to the pin central axle between a pin handle and an end of the cylindrical pin. The assembly includes a planar clip member adjacent the pin handle and a planar spacer member adjacent the cylindrical pin. Each clip and spacer assembly is smaller in diameter than the cylindrical rolling pin and larger in diameter than the pin handle. Each planar clip member including at least one tab portion coplanar therewith.

Also included is a pair of planar guide disk members, each guide disk member having a diameter larger than the cylindrical pin. Each guide disk member has a central slot allowing passage of the clip member with at least one tab portion there through, for positioning the guide disk member



about the spacer member.

Inserting a pin handle through a guide disk member's central slot allows the clip member with at least one tab portion to pass through the guide disk member's central slot, thereby encircling the spacer member. Rotational movement between the guide disk member and clip member produces misalignment of the clip member's at least one tab portion and the guide disk member's central slot, thereby locking the guide disk member in place about the spacer member, and thus elevating the cylindrical pin a selected distance above a support surface.

Applicant's agent respectfully holds that the combination of *Abrams '145* and *Wiley '952* does not disclose, teach or even suggest the present invention of claim 28.

The *Abrams '145* reference discloses a rolling pin 10 having an end wall 12 with a rigidly affixed an axial pin or rod 13 holding a handle forming sleeve 14. The outer free end of each rod 13 is provided with a reduced (diameter) portion 15, which is separated from the remainder of the rod by a shoulder 16. A gauge wheel 17 has an axial opening 18 of a size to slidably receive the reduced (diameter) portion 15 with the wheel 17 in engagement with the shoulder 16. The reduced portion 15 is threaded to receive a nut 19 and washer to retain the gauge wheel 17 on the reduced (diameter) portion 15 of the rod 13 (col. 2, lines 50-66).

In order to change the gauge wheel, the nut and washer must be removed and then reattached, requiring a tool, such as a wrench or pliers, to loosen and tighten the nut.

The *Wiley '952* reference discloses a mechanism for attaching a circular saw blade 26 to the arbor or drive shaft 14 of a power saw. The mechanism includes a splined blade holder 36 with a locking groove 34. To mount the blade 26 to the arbor 14, the blade 26 contacts the splined slide lock 38, with the slot 28 in the circular blade 26 passing over the blade holder 36 and the lands 32 of the blade 26 rotated to fit into the locking groove 34. The spring biased, splined slide lock 38 then engages the blade holder 36 to prevent rotation of the circular blade 26 so that rotation of the arbor 14 imparts rotation to the blade 26 to effect cutting with the blade 26. The release button 48 is positioned at the end of the arbor 14 to move the slide lock 38 to allow the blade 26 to be removed from the arbor 14.

The combined teachings of the *Abrams '145* and *Wiley '952* references suggests using the mechanism of *Wiley '952* at each end of the axial pin or rod 13 of the rolling pin to secure each gauge wheel 17 thereto. The release button 48 connected to the biased, splined slide lock 38, disclosed by *Wiley '952*, must be accessible and on the end of the mechanism for attaching and releasing the gauge wheel 17. Thus, the mechanism must be attached to the pin or rod 13 at the end opposite the pin end wall 12. There is no disclosure, teaching or suggestion that the clip and spacer assembly of the present invention be located between a pin handle and the end of the cylindrical pin. This claimed location for the clip and spacer assembly allows for a much simpler mechanism for securing a guide disk member to the clip and spacer assembly mounted to the pin central axle. The *Wiley '952* reference requires rigid locking of the saw blade 26 to the arbor 14 in order to effect cutting by the blade 26. The present invention of the claims under prosecution allow the guide disks to rotate on the spacer assembly. Further, should the tab portion(s) of the central slot of the guide disk align with the tab portion(s) of the clip member during use of the rolling pin, the user's hand on the pin handle prevents the guide disk from disengaging from the clip and spacer assembly.

Thus, applicant's agent holds that the combination of *Abrams '145* and *Wiley '952* does not disclose, teach or even suggest the present invention of claim 28, and that claim 28 is patentable over these references. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claim 28 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) be withdrawn, in view of the above arguments.

3.00 The prior art made of record and not relied upon, Moyle, U.S. Patent No. 692,795; Webb, U.S. Patent No. 4,964,594; and Morrissey et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,520,464, have been reviewed by the applicant. None are believed to be more pertinent than the reference cited by the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

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